STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN JULIUS GENACHOWSKI

Re: Revisions to Rules Authorizing the Operation of Low Power Auxiliary Stations in the 698-806 MHz Band, WT Docket No. 08-166; Public Interest Spectrum Coalition, Petition for Rulemaking Regarding Low Power Auxiliary Stations, Including Wireless Microphones, and the Digital Television Transition, WT Docket No. 08-167; Amendment of Parts 15, 74 and 90 of the Commission's Rules Regarding Low Power Auxiliary Stations, Including Wireless Microphones, ET Docket No. 10-24.

Today the Commission is taking necessary and essential action to complete the digital television transition, by requiring wireless microphone users to exit the 700 MHz Band by June 12, 2010. Our decision will accelerate the buildout of 4G wireless networks, and will prevent interference with first responders who rely on the 700 MHz Band for mission-critical communications.

In order to ensure that existing microphone users are aware of the June 12 deadline and their role in the transition, the Commission will also implement a major consumer outreach program, including a consumer-friendly Commission webpage on wireless microphones. The Commission is also requiring—for the first time—that manufacturers and retailers of wireless microphones provide clear notice to consumers about the basic terms and conditions under which they may use wireless microphones and how they may find out more information. Finally, the Commission is seeking comment on the long-term status of wireless microphones and other low-power auxiliary stations.

I thank my colleagues and their staff, as well as the staff of the Commission's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, the Office of Engineering and Technology, and the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau for their hard work on this important item.